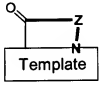
Amendments to the Claims:

This claim listing replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

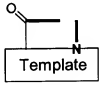
Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of the general formula



(I)

wherein



is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro or ^{L}Pro-^{D}Pro and Z is a chain of 12 amino acid residues wherein the amino acid residues in chain Z are:

-P1: Leu; Thr; or Arg;

-P2: Arg; or Trp;

-P3: Leu;

-P4: Lys; hArg [L-homo-arginine]; (BA)G [N-(4-amino-n-butyl)glycine]; or Gln;

-P5: Lys; Gln; hArg; or (PeA)G [N-(5-amino-n-pentyl)glycine];

-P6: Arg, Trp, hArg; (EGU)G [N-(2-guanidinoethyl)glycine]; (EA)G [N-(2-aminoethyl)glycine]; (PrA)G [N-(3-aminopropyl)glycine]; (PeA)G or (BA)G;

-P7: Arg; (PeA)G; or Val;

-P8: Trp; or Bip [L-(4-phenyl)phenylalanine];

-P9: Lys; Arg; or hArg;

-P10: Tyr;

-P11: Arg; or Tyr; and

-P12: Val; or Arg;

with the proviso that

- the amino acid residue in P4 is (BA)G; and/or
- the amino acid residue in P5 is (PeA)G; and/or
- the amino acid residue in P6 is (EGU)G or (EA)G or (PrA)G or (PeA)G or (BA)G; and/or
- the amino acid residue in P7 is (PeA)G.

or an enantiomer thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2-17. (Previously cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

- P1: Leu;
- P2: Arg;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: (EA)G;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Arg; and

- P12: Val.

19. (Previously presented) The compound of formula Ia according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

- P1: Leu;
- P2: Arg;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: hArg;
- P5: hArg;
- P6: (EGU)G;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: hArg;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Arg; and
- P12: Val.

20. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

- P1: Leu;
- P2: Arg;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: (PrA)G;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;

- P11: Arg; and
- P12: Val.

21. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro; and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

- P1: Leu;
- P2: Arg;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: (BA)G;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Bip;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Arg; and
- P12: Val.

22. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

- P1: Leu;
- P2: Arg;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: (BA)G;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: (BA)G;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Bip;
- P9: Lys;

- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Arg; and
- P12: Val.

23. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

- P1: Leu;
- P2: Arg;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: (PrA)G;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Bip;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Arg; and
- P12: Val.

24. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

P1: Arg;
- P2: Trp;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: Arg;
- P7: (PeA)G;
- P8: Trp;

- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Tyr; and
- P12: Val.

25. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

P1: Arg;
- P2: Trp;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Gln;
- P5: (PeA)G;
- P6: Arg;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Tyr; and
- P12: Arg.

26. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

P1: Arg;
- P2: Trp;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: (PeA)G;
- P6: Arg;
- P7: Arg;

- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Tyr; and
- P12: Val.

27. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

P1: Thr;
- P2: Trp;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: (PeA)G;
- P6: Arg;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Tyr; and

P12: Arg.

28. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

P1: Arg;
- P2: Trp;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Gln;
- P5: Lys;
- P6: Arg;

- P7: (PeA)G;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Tyr; and
  P12: Arg.

29. (Previously presented) The compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein the template is ^{D}Pro-^{L}Pro and the amino acid residues in position 1 – 12 are:

  P1: Thr;
- P2: Trp;
- P3: Leu;
- P4: Lys;
- P5: (PeA)G;
- P6: Arg;
- P7: Arg;
- P8: Trp;
- P9: Lys;
- P10: Tyr;
- P11: Tyr; and
  P12: Arg.

30. (Cancelled)

31-32. (Previously cancelled)

33. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically inert carrier.

34. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 33 in a form suitable for oral, topical, transdermal, injection, buccal, transmucosal, pulmonary or inhalation administration.

35. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 33 in form of tablets, dragees, capsules, solutions, liquids, gels, plaster, creams, ointments, syrup, slurries, suspensions, spray, nebuliser or suppositories.

36. (Previously presented) A method for treating or reducing the risk of bacterial infections comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

37. (Withdrawn) A method for disinfecting or preserving foodstuffs, cosmetics, medicaments and other nutrient-containing materials which comprises adding to such foodstuffs, cosmetics, medicaments and other nutrient-containing materials an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

38. (Currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound according to claim 1 which process comprises

(a) coupling an appropriately functionalized solid support with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is in position 5, 6 or 7, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

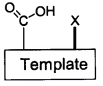
(b) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(c) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position nearer the N-terminal amino acid residue, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(d) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

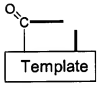
(e) repeating steps (c) and (d) until the N-terminal amino acid residue has been introduced;

(f) coupling the product thus obtained with a compound of the general formula

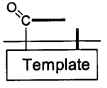


II

wherein



is as defined above and X is an N-protecting group or, ~~if~~



~~is to be group (a1) or (a2), above,~~ alternatively

(fa) coupling the product obtained in step (e) with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the general formula

HOOC-B-H **III** or HOOC-A-H **IV**

wherein B and A are as defined above , any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(fb) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained; and

(fc) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the above general formula IV and, respectively, III, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(g) removing the N-protecting group from the product obtained in step (f) or (fc);

(h) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is in position 12, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(i) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(j) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position farther away from position 12, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(k) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(l) repeating steps (j) and (k) until all amino acid residues have been introduced;

(m) if desired, selectively deprotecting one or several protected functional group(s) present in the molecule and appropriately substituting the reactive group(s) thus liberated;

(o) detaching the product thus obtained from the solid support;

(p) cyclizing the product cleaved from the solid support;

(q) if desired, forming one or two interstrand linkage(s) between side-chains of appropriate amino acid residues at opposite positions of the β-strand region;

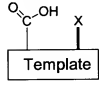
(r) removing any protecting groups present on functional groups of any members of the chain of amino acid residues and, if desired, any protecting group(s) which may in addition be present in the molecule;

(s) if desired guanidinylating any side-chain amino group present in the chain of amino acid residues; and

(t) if desired, converting the product thus obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or converting a pharmaceutically acceptable, or unacceptable, salt thus obtained into the corresponding free compound of formula I or into a different, pharmaceutically acceptable, salt.

39. (Currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound according to claim 1 which process comprises

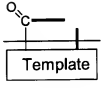
(a') coupling an appropriately functionalized solid support with a compound of the general formula



II

wherein

is as defined above and X is an N-protecting group or, ~~if~~



~~is to be group (a1) or (a2), above,~~ alternatively

(a'a) coupling said appropriately functionalized solid support with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the general formula

HOOC-B-H **III** or HOOC-A-H **IV**

wherein B and A are as defined above , any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(a'b) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained; and

(a'c) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the above general formula IV and, respectively, III, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(b') removing the N-protecting group from the product obtained in step (a') or (a'c);

(c') coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position nearer the N-terminal amino acid residue, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(d') removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(e') coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position farther away from position 12, any

functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(f') removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(g') repeating steps (e') and (f') until all amino acid residues have been introduced;

(h') if desired, selectively deprotecting one or several protected functional group(s) present in the molecule and appropriately substituting the reactive group(s) thus liberated;

(i') detaching the product thus obtained from the solid support;

(j') cyclizing the product cleaved from the solid support;

(k') if desired forming one or two interstrand linkage(s) between side-chains of appropriate amino acid residues at opposite positions of the β-strand region;

(l') removing any protecting groups present on functional groups of any members of the chain of amino acid residues and, if desired, any protecting group(s) which may in addition be present in the molecule;

(m') if desired guanidinylating any side-chain amino group present in the chain of amino acid residues; and

(n') if desired, converting the product thus obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or converting a pharmaceutically acceptable, or unacceptable, salt thus obtained into the corresponding free compound of formula I or into a different, pharmaceutically acceptable, salt.

40. (Currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound according to claim 1, which process comprises

(a) coupling an appropriately functionalized solid support with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is in position 5, 6 or 7, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(b) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

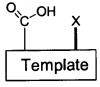
(c) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position nearer the N-terminal amino acid

residue, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(d) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

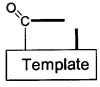
(e) repeating steps (c) and (d) until the N-terminal amino acid residue has been introduced;

(f) coupling the product thus obtained with a compound of the general formula

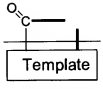


II

wherein



is as defined above and X is an N-protecting group or, ~~if~~



~~is to be group (a1) or (a2), above,~~ alternatively

(fa) coupling the product obtained in step (e) with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the general formula

HOOC-B-H **III** or HOOC-A-H **IV**

wherein B and A are as defined above, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(fb) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained; and

(fc) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the above general formula IV and, respectively, III, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(g) removing the N-protecting group from the product obtained in step (f) or (fc);

(h) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is in position 12, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(i) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(j) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position farther away from position 12, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(k) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(l) repeating steps (j) and (k) until all amino acid residues have been introduced;

(m) if desired, selectively deprotecting one or several protected functional group(s) present in the molecule and appropriately substituting the reactive group(s) thus liberated;

(o) detaching the product thus obtained from the solid support;

(p) cyclizing the product cleaved from the solid support;

(q) if desired, forming one or two interstrand linkage(s) between side-chains of appropriate amino acid residues at opposite positions of the β-strand region;

(r) removing any protecting groups present on functional groups of any members of the chain of amino acid residues and, if desired, any protecting group(s) which may in addition be present in the molecule;

(s) if desired guanidinylating any side-chain amino group present in the chain of amino acid residues; and

(t) if desired, converting the product thus obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or converting a pharmaceutically acceptable, or unacceptable, salt thus obtained into the corresponding free compound of formula I or into a different, pharmaceutically acceptable salt, wherein a residue of (BA)G, (PeA)G, (EGU)G, (EA)G or (PrA)G is introduced by coupling with a leaving group-containing agent, followed by nucleophilic displacement with ammonia or guanidine.

41. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 40 wherein said leaving group-containing agent is bromo, chloro or iodo acetic acid.

42. (Cancelled)

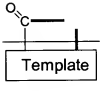
43. (Currently amended) A process for the manufacture of a compound according to claim 1, which process comprises

(a') coupling an appropriately functionalized solid support with a compound of the general formula

II

wherein

is as defined above and X is an N-protecting group or, ~~if~~



~~is to be group (a1) or (a2), above,~~ alternatively

(a'a) coupling said appropriately functionalized solid support with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the general formula

HOOC-B-H **III** or HOOC-A-H **IV**

wherein B and A are as defined above, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(a'b) removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained; and

(a'c) coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of an amino acid of the above general formula IV and, respectively, III, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(b') removing the N-protecting group from the product obtained in step (a') or (a'c);

(c') coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position nearer the N-terminal amino acid residue, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(d') removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(e') coupling the product thus obtained with an appropriately N-protected derivative of that amino acid which in the desired end-product is one position farther away from position 12, any functional group which may be present in said N-protected amino acid derivative being likewise appropriately protected;

(f') removing the N-protecting group from the product thus obtained;

(g') repeating steps (e') and (f') until all amino acid residues have been introduced;

(h') if desired, selectively deprotecting one or several protected functional group(s) present in the molecule and appropriately substituting the reactive group(s) thus liberated;

(i') detaching the product thus obtained from the solid support;

(j') cyclizing the product cleaved from the solid support;

(k') if desired forming one or two interstrand linkage(s) between side-chains of appropriate amino acid residues at opposite positions of the β-strand region;

(l') removing any protecting groups present on functional groups of any members of the chain of amino acid residues and, if desired, any protecting group(s) which may in addition be present in the molecule;

(m') if desired guanidinylating any side-chain amino group present in the chain of amino acid residues; and

(n') if desired, converting the product thus obtained into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or converting a pharmaceutically acceptable, or unacceptable, salt thus obtained into the corresponding free compound of formula I or into a different, pharmaceutically acceptable salt, wherein a residue of (BA)G, (PeA)G, (EGU)G, (EA)G or (PrA)G is introduced by coupling with a leaving group-containing agent, followed by nucleophilic displacement with ammonia or guanidine.

44. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 43 wherein said leaving group-containing agent is bromo, chloro or iodo acetic acid.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Previously presented) A method of treating Cystic Fibrosis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound of claim 1.